

HOUSE RESOLUTION 91

By Love

A RESOLUTION to recognize and commend the Honorable Dorothea "Dee" Dawkins-Haigler for her meritorious service.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this legislative body should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Dorothea "Dee" Dawkins-Haigler served eight and one-half years as a Georgia state representative from June 2008 to January 2017, during which time she served as chair of the Georgia Legislative Black Caucus and the Georgia Women's Legislative Caucus; and

WHEREAS, a resident of Lithonia, Georgia, she served as chaplain for the National Black Caucus of State Legislators (NBCSL) and national director of regional coordinators for the National Organization of Black Elected Legislative Women (NOBEL Women); she was a state director for Women in Government and the National Council of State Legislators Women's Network; and

WHEREAS, a regular commentator on FOX News, ABC, CBS, NBC, and RT America, Ms. Dawkins-Haigler is the host author of the bestselling book *A Message to Our Daughters: Turning Trials Into Triumphs*; and

WHEREAS, she is the owner of DDH & Associates and executive director of TIME 1000, an organization dedicated to helping 1,000 women and minorities get elected to public office or receive board appointments, and she has trained women from Liberia, Nigeria, Ghana, Rwanda, Ethiopia, South Africa, Burundi, Tanzania, and the Democratic Republic of Congo on gender issues, health, entrepreneurship, education, and running for office; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Dawkins-Haigler is the founder and president of the Organization of World Leaders (OWL), a consortium of leaders in finance, politics, government, law, business, and health dedicated to building alliances for economic growth in Africa and the diaspora; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Dawkins-Haigler serves as the chief ambassador to the United Nations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) for the Center of Economic Leadership and Development (CELD) in New York, Geneva, and Vienna; and

WHEREAS, she founded One Georgia, dedicated to bringing clergy, elected officials, social and civic groups, civil rights organizations, and fraternities and sororities together to promote economic justice and parity in African-American and Hispanic communities; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Dawkins-Haigler is the organizer of the Minority Cannabis Coalition (MCC), an organization dedicated to promoting equity and access in the cannabis industry; and

WHEREAS, she earned a bachelor's degree in political science from South Carolina State University, a master's degree in public administration from Kentucky State University, and a Master of Divinity from the Interdenominational Theological Center's Turner Theological Seminary; she has received numerous honorary doctorates for her work in bringing political, public, and religious communities together to eradicate racism, sexism, and classism; and

WHEREAS, an advocate for children and youth impacted by poverty, she was appointed to the Juvenile Parole Board for the State of South Carolina, the youngest and first African American to serve as chair of the board; she is an advocate in the fight against human trafficking, domestic violence, and teen dating violence, which led her to produce the docudrama *Black Girls Die Too: The Back Page Murders*, chronicling the deaths of fourteen Black women murdered as a result of using online human/sex trafficking websites; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Dawkins-Haigler serves as president of the East Metro Orchids and is actively involved as a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Top Ladies of Distinction, National Council of Negro Women, and Order of Eastern Star; and

WHEREAS, together with her college sweetheart, now beloved husband, Colonel David Haigler, Jr., she has reared four fine children: Christopher, Christyn, Hannah, and Joshua; they have blessed her with the affection of two grandchildren, Amari and Kingston; and

WHEREAS, Dorothea "Dee" Dawkins-Haigler is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the Volunteer State, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we recognize and commend the Honorable Dorothea "Dee" Dawkins-Haigler, ordained minister, community activist, college educator, and political strategist dedicated to public service, for philanthropy at home, throughout Africa, and in the Caribbean, and extend to her our best wishes for much continued success in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.